

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 ISO-00 ACDE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 IO-03 L-02 NSAE-00

OIC-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02

SS-14 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-07 AECE-00 DRC-01 /076 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8067

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 5561

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: USE OF REVISED NATO AND PACT TOTALS WITH THE OTHER SIDE

REF: A. USNATO 5545

B. MBFR VIENNA 290

1. UK DELEGATION HAS CIRCULATED IN SPC A TEXT ON WHAT UK WANTS AHG TO SAY TO THE OTHER SIDE ON THE REVISED DATA. TEXT IS BASED ON UK REMARKS AT OCTOBER 7 SPC MEETING (PARA 3, REF A), AND IS AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT:

"THE FIGURES NATO NEGOTIATORS HAVE QUOTED IN THE PAST FOR NATO AND WARSAW PACT GROUND FORCE TOTALS REPRESENT OUR BEST ESTIMATE OF THE

SECRET

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POSITION IN NOVEMBER 1973.

THESE FIGURES ARE UNDER CONTINUING REVIEW AND, BECAUSE OF THE CHANGES IN THE MANNING STRENGTHS ON BOTH SIDES, NOW APPEAR TO BE OUT OF DATE. NATO NEGOTIATORS WOULD BE PREPARED, IN THE CONTEXT OF A SERIOUS

RECIPROCAL DISCUSSION OF DATA, TO OFFER OUR MORE RECENT ESTIMATES."

END TEXT

3. COMMENT: THE NAC OCTOBER 2 GUIDANCE ON REDEFINITION OF GROUND FORCES AND ON REVISED DATA FOR INTERNAL USE OF HAG BOTH CALL ON THE AHG TO TELL THE PACT IN A LOW KEY WAY THAT OUR NUMBERS ARE NATURALLY UNDER CONTINUING REVIEW AND SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENTS. THERE ARE TWO NEW ELEMENTS IN THE ABOVE UK TEXT. FIRST, THE AHG WOULD TELL THE PACT THAT THE FIGURES " NOW APPEAR TO BE OUT OF DATE." SECOND, THE REASON CITED IN THE UK TEXT AS TO WHY THE FIGURES APPEAR OUT OF DATE IS "CHANGES IN THE MANNING STRENGTHS ON BOTH SIDES." TELLING THE OTHER SIDE ONLY THAT THE FIGURES ARE OUT OF DATE WOULD WEAKEN THE ALLIES' PRESENT STRONG POSITION ON DATA. FURTHERMORE, THERE ARE MORE REASONS FOR THE REVISIONS IN THE DATA THAN CHANGES IN THE MANNING STRENGTHS ON BOTH SIDES. MISSION PLANS TO TAKE THIS LINE RE UK TEXT AT OCTOBER 10 SPC. MISSION BELIEVES VIENNA'S SUGGESTION (PARA 2, REF B) COULD SERVE AS BASIS FOR COMPROMISE, SINCE IT WOULD NOT GIVE THE EAST THE NEW NUMBERS, BUT WOULD INFORM THE EAST OF THE DIRECTION OF THE CHANGES. MISSION WOULD WANT TO SEE IF THERE IS ANY FURTHER MOVEMENT TOWARD U.S. POSITION AT OCTOBER 10 SPC, IN VIEW OF SWITCH IN NETHERLANDS POSITION, BEFORE PROPOSING ANY COMPROMISE LANGUAGE WHICH WASHINGTON MIGHT AUTHORIZE. MCAULIFFE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: STATE
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